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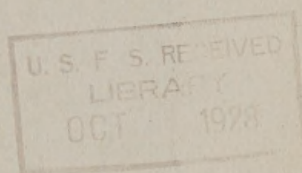
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FOREST PRODUCTS RESEARCH IN PICTURES

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NO. 46

FOREST GOES TO MILL  
SOIL GOES TO SEA



FOREST PRODUCTS LABORATORY  
U. S. FOREST SERVICE  
MADISON, WISCONSIN

This gully advancing on the little southern homestead owes its start to the removal of the trees which once covered the slope. Having lost its forest cover, this land is fated to be stripped of its fertile soil. The water running from ordinary rain and snowfall is rapidly eroding it so as to make cultivation impossible. Bare watersheds of this type allow water to pour into streams so swiftly that violent flood stages alternate with long low water stages. The earth carried from the gullies by the water necessitates constant dredging of navigable rivers and of harbors at river mouths. Silting in time ruins the finest power or irrigation development.

Reforestation is an effective means of controlling run-off water and of reclaiming land which has been ruined by gullies and washes.

The seedling forest begins to pay for its planting when only a few years old by holding back water in the spongy leaf mulch on the ground.

*Photograph by U. S. Forest Service*





